

CIACO NID 81 [REDACTED]

April 16, 1981

POLAND: Soviet Commentary

*The Soviet media have swung back into full gear in their attacks on "antisocialists" in Poland, while at the same time emphasizing Moscow's continued support for what it hopes will be two mainstays of Communism there--Prime Minister Jaruzelski and the Army. Polish party liberals are publicly advocating their cause in advance of a key party meeting later this month. Meanwhile, Warsaw Pact forces are conducting seasonal training, [REDACTED]*

Among the critical commentaries, the most significant is a *Pravda* article yesterday attacking an unofficial ceremony in Warsaw that marked the Soviet massacre of Polish officers at the Katyn forest during World War II. The incident, which Moscow still blames on the Nazis, is particularly sensitive for Poles and Soviets. Raising it in *Pravda* gives prominence to the charge of "anti-Sovietism" in Poland, which until now has not been treated as a major issue by the Soviet media. [REDACTED]

A Radio Moscow broadcast yesterday carried the Soviets' first positive comment on Jaruzelski's call for a two-month ban on strikes by alleging broad support in Poland for this "correct and timely" initiative. The Soviet military paper, *Red Star*, meanwhile, returned on Tuesday to a theme it has stressed throughout the crisis--that the Polish Army is a "reliable defender" of "socialist" Poland against "counterrevolution." [REDACTED]

Party Liberals

Rank-and-file liberals from different parts of Poland met in Torun yesterday to demand extensive leadership changes, expanded party democracy, and more publicity for their views. The session--apparently organized by local liberals and attended by some 800 people, including Solidarity activists--is the first major attempt by grassroots reformers to organize their movement. The meeting is indicative of the problems the central leadership will have keeping reformist tendencies in check as it prepares for the party congress this summer. [REDACTED]

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Military Situation

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The Soviet troop rotation to Eastern Europe now under way involves heavy air and rail movements that will complicate our ability to warn of any Soviet preparations directed at Poland. [REDACTED]

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